

## IRONING BOARD HAVING AN IRON REST

### Description

### Technical Area

[0001] Ironing boards normally in use have an ironing surface which is currently often made of expanded metal. A rest surface which is situated at the blunt end of the ironing board is provided for the iron. The iron may be placed horizontally or in an oblique position at a predefined angle here. Flexible rods fixedly attached to the iron rest are used as cable holders for the iron cord. Foldable legs which may be folded up on the bottom of the ironing board are attached underneath the ironing board. As a result, the ironing board requires little space for storage. The legs are designed such that they permit the board height to be adjusted to different heights, so that the board is adaptable to the size of the operator. Except for this possibility of height adjustment, the boards are otherwise equipped in a very inflexible manner and offer little possibility of adjustment to changed conditions.

### Background Information

[0002] DE 195 26 637 A1 describes an ironing board in which the iron rest has a coupling part for an extension cord which is used for conducting current from a wall outlet to the ironing board. The coupling part is designed as an outlet into which the plug of the iron cord can be inserted. The iron cord itself may pass through a cable holding device. The tensile force occurring here due to the deflection or bending of the cable holding device interferes with the ironing operation. When ironing, the cable is maximally tensioned at the narrow tip of the ironing board, where the tensile force is therefore high. In addition, when the iron is put down on the rest surface, the cable guide is easily twisted and the cable is in the way on the rest surface. The rest surface itself is formed by a sheet metal insert which receives a rotatable iron rest. The rotatable iron rest represents an improvement with respect to a rigid rest because it allows the iron to be

placed oriented in different directions. However, when changing from a right-handed to a left-handed operator, the cable holding device must be changed from the left side of the iron rest to the right side.

**[0003]** GB 2 124 616 A describes a possibility of a different type of adjustment of the iron rest position relative to the length of the ironing board. For this purpose, the ironing board is equipped with guide strips underneath the board surface in which the iron rest may be displaced via holding rods over the ironing board in the longitudinal direction of the ironing board. In this way the iron rest may be displaced from its position at the blunt end of the ironing board over the end of the ironing board. This reduces the reach for the iron when ironing smaller pieces.

#### Illustration of the Invention

**[0004]** The object of the present invention is to improve the known ironing boards, in particular by reconfiguring the rest surface for the iron to thereby achieve greater safety and flexibility in handling the ironing board.

**[0005]** This object is achieved by the features of Claim 1. The features of subclaims 2 through 14 represent improved embodiments of the present invention. The design of the iron rest in the form of a drawer, so it may be pushed under the ironing board after use, represents an improvement with respect to the safety requirements. In addition, space is saved when storing the ironing board.

**[0006]** It is advantageous if it is possible to pull out the iron rest in two different pull-out positions and fix it in these positions. The first pull-out stage may be used for a normal steam iron and the second pull-out stage for a steam iron station. (Please provide a brief additional explanation of the arrangement of the steam iron station.)

**[0007]** To increase safety, the ironing rest is provided with an outlet for a power cord. This outlet is equipped with a switch for interrupting the current. In addition, it has a pilot lamp for

indicating whether or not the switch is on. In addition, the outlet is designed at the same time as a handle for the displaceable iron rest.

[0008] For guiding the iron cord, the iron rest has a recess through which the iron cord is guided to be inserted with its plug into the outlet from below. A weight is suspended on the iron cord to tauten the cord.

[0009] The receptacle for the iron has an opening having two support flaps opposite one another, oriented obliquely to the ironing board surface and pointing downward. A further, third, support flap is preferably provided, which points upward and is an extension of one of the first two support flaps. The support flaps themselves are articulated to the side edges of the opening opposite one another via hinges, and, when not in use, may be folded into the plane of the opening. The support flaps may be fixed in the folded-in position.

[0010] Another improvement of the iron rest is achieved by the fact that it is equipped with a rotatable support for the iron. This rotatable support may be fixed at any angle.

#### Brief Description of the Drawing

[0011] A plurality of exemplary embodiments of the inventive idea are illustrated in the appended drawing.

[0012] Figure 1 shows a top view of an ironing board having a pulled-out drawer-like iron rest;

[0013] Figure 2 shows a side view of the rear end of the ironing board of Figure 1;

[0014] Figure 3 shows an ironing board having an iron rest including a rotatable support for the iron.

[0015] Figure 4 shows a top view of the blunt end of the ironing board having a swiveling support for the iron; and

[0016] Figure 5 shows a side view of the ironing board end according to Figure 4.

#### Detailed Description of the Exemplary Embodiments

[0017] Figure 1 shows a top view of an ironing board 2 having iron rest 3. Iron rest 3 is attached to ironing board 2 as a drawer and may be pushed in under the bottom surface of ironing board 2 when not in use. Connector 4 for a power cord is attached to the bottom of iron rest 3. Connector 4 contains at the same time a socket into which the plug of iron cord 6 may be introduced. In addition, connector 4 is provided with a switch for interrupting the current. The switch itself is connected to a pilot light which indicates that current is flowing or that the current is interrupted by the switch. Connector 4 is designed so that it may be used at the same time as a handle for displaceable iron rest 3. Iron rest 3 is provided with recess 5 for guiding the iron cord to connector 4. As Figure 2 in particular shows, iron cord 6 is tensioned by a weight 7 suspended on cord 6. Support 10 for the iron is formed by opening 11 in iron rest 3, which is provided laterally with two support flaps 12 oriented obliquely to the ironing board plane and pointing downward. Support flaps 12 are articulated to opposite side edges of opening 11 via hinges 14 (not shown in detail). In this way they may be folded into the plane of opening 11 and fixed there.

[0018] Figure 2 shows a side view of the ironing board end, the longitudinal section of iron rest 3 being shown.

[0019] Power cord 17 is incorporated in legs 15.

[0020] In Figure 3 iron rest 3 is provided with a rotatable support 20 for the iron. Support 20 has only one support flap 12 in opening 11, which is articulated to a side edge of opening 11 via hinge 14. Of course, a plurality of support flaps may also be mounted here.

**[0021]** In Figures 4 and 5, an ironing board 2 is shown to have a swivelable iron rest 3. For this purpose, rest 3 is provided with two rivets 21 which attach rest 3 to holding device 22 and are used at the same time as link blocks in curved slide guides 23. Rest 3 may be swiveled either to the left or to the right.